

International Development Committee

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From Sarah Champion MP, Chair

Rt Hon Dominic Raab MP
Secretary of State
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
By email

5 March 2021

Aids Free World's Code Blue Campaign article relating to case of rape by civilian peacekeeper in the DRC

Dear Dominic,

I'm writing regarding an article which was published by Aids Free World's Code Blue Campaign on 12 February 2021 entitled "[The UN Fined a Child Rapist. The UK Did Even Less.](#)" The article describes a case of rape which it says was perpetrated by a British member of civilian peacekeeping staff against a minor in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2017. The article indicates that the case was substantiated by the UN, the individual was fined and their contract with the UN was terminated but no action was taken to prosecute them. I would be interested to know what involvement the UK Government has had with this case.

I would be grateful if you could set out:

1. When the UK Government learned about this case?
2. What happens when the UN informs the UK Government about a case such as this. How are decisions taken about the appropriate action to take against the perpetrator?
3. How many reports of sexual offences by British UN peacekeeping personnel, both military and civilian, has the UK Government received since 2017?
4. What steps the FCDO has taken since 2017 to bring forward prosecutions for British peacekeeping personnel who perpetrate sexual offences while deployed overseas?

Yours sincerely,



Sarah Champion MP
Chair of the Committee